

1886. The specimens examined from Eastern Kansas are nearly all the true *S. monticola*, the coloration being fully as rich and deep as that of the eastern specimen taken in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, December 1, 1882. I therefore enter the Western Tree Sparrow as a winter resident; abundant in Middle and Western Kansas, and not uncommon in the eastern portion of the State. The western specimens, however, that I have examined, were all captured in the fall or early winter, and I should be led to think it possible upon further examination, especially of the birds in their spring plumage, might prove the paler form to be the immature winter dress, were it not for the fact that Mr. Brewster, in making his examination, had before him not only his own large collection, but that in the National Museum, which must have embraced specimens taken at different seasons of the year.

Turdus ustulatus swainsonii (*Cab.*). OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.—June 6, 1886, I saw several of these birds in the timber skirting Crooked Creek, in the northern part of Meade County. They were probably migrants, but the date is so late in the season that I think it worthy of mention.



LIST OF THE MIDSUMMER BIRDS OF THE KOWAK RIVER, NORTHERN ALASKA.

BY CHARLES H. TOWNSEND.

As my 'Notes on the Natural History of Northern Alaska,' forming part of the 'Report of the Arctic Cruise of the U. S. Revenue Steamer *Corwin*,' recently ordered to be published by Congress, will probably be several months in the hands of the Public Printer, a list of the birds I found in those high latitudes may be acceptable to the readers of 'The Auk.'

The Kowak was explored by a party sent out from the 'Corwin,' in 1885, in charge of Lieut. J. C. Cantwell, consisting of Lieut. Cantwell, myself, two seaman, and several Eskimo guides. We were on the river from the first of July until the last of August, and were the first white men to reach the head-

waters, which we discovered at a distance of probably more than five hundred miles from the sea.

This river flows into the Arctic Ocean at Kotzebue Sound, through a delta forty miles broad, and throughout its course lies entirely within the Arctic Circle.

In the interior the country is wooded and mountainous, and the lower course of the river is through rolling tundra lands.

The list is restricted to the species actually obtained or seen in the region.

1. *Urinator adamsii* (Gray). Common.
2. *Urinator lumme* (Gunn.). Rather common.
3. *Larus glaucus* Brünn. Common.
4. *Larus leucopterus* Faber. Common.
5. *Larus philadelphia* (Ord). Common; breeds.
6. *Sterna paradisæa* Brünn. Common.
7. *Merganser serrator* (Linn.). Common; breeds.
8. *Anas carolinensis* Gmel. Common; breeds.
9. *Dafla acuta* (Linn.). Abundant; breeds.
10. *Anser albifrons gambeli* (Hartl.). Abundant; breeds.
11. *Branta canadensis minima* Ridgw. Abundant; breeds.
12. *Olor columbianus* (Ord). Rare.
13. *Grus canadensis* (Linn.). Common.
14. *Tringa minutilla* Vieill. Numerous.
15. *Ereunetes pusillus* (Linn.). Common.
16. *Totanus flavipes* (Gmel.). Common; breeds.
17. *Bartramia longicauda* (Bechst.). Common; breeds.
18. *Actitis macularia* (Linn.). Rather rare.
19. *Numenius tahitiensis* (Gmel.). One specimen.
20. *Ægialitis semipalmata* Bonap. Common.
21. *Arenaria melanocephala* (Vig.). Rare.
22. *Dendragapus canadensis* (Linn.). Seen once; found breeding.
23. *Lagopus lagopus* (Linn.). Not abundant.
24. *Circus hudsonius* (Linn.). Not uncommon; breeds.
25. *Archibuteo lagopus* (Brünn.). One specimen.
26. *Falco columbarius* Linn. Rather common; breeds.
27. *Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis* (Gmel.). Common; breeds.
28. *Asio accipitrinus* (Pull.). One specimen.
29. *Ceryle alcyon* (Linn.). Common; breeds.
30. *Perisoreus canadensis fumifrons* Ridgw. Common; breeds.
31. *Corvus corax sinuatus* (Wagl.). Common.
32. *Scolecophagus carolinus* (Mull.). Not common.
33. *Acanthis linaria holbøllii* (Brehm.). Only a few seen.
34. *Calcarius lapponicus* (Linn.). Common on the coast only.
35. *Zonotrichia intermedia* Ridgw. Very common; breeds.
36. *Spizella monticola ochracea* Brewst. Rare; breeds.

37. *Junco hyemalis* (Linn.). Not numerous.
38. *Passerella iliaca* (Merr.). Rare.
39. *Tachycineta bicolor* (Vieill.). Common; breeds.
40. *Chelidon erythrogaster* (Bodd.). Common; breeds.
41. *Lanius borealis* Vieill. Seen but once.
42. *Dendroica æstiva* (Gmel.). Common; breeds.
43. *Dendroica coronata* (Linn.). Very common; breeds.
44. *Dendroica striata* (Forst.). Not common; breeds.
45. *Seiurus noveboracensis* (Gmel.). Moderately common.
46. *Sylvania pusilla* (Wils.). Common.
47. *Anthus pensilvanicus* (Lath.). Only a few seen.
48. *Parus hudsonicus* Forst. Seen once only.
49. *Phyllopeustes borealis* (Blas.). One specimen.
50. *Turdus aliciae* Baird. Common.
51. *Merula migratoria* (Linn.). Common.
52. *Hesperocichla nævia* (Gmel.). Common; found breeding.

It will be noticed that some of the best known boreal species, such as the Hawk Owl, Snowy Owl, Pine Grosbeak, Crossbill, Gyrfalcon, etc., are conspicuous by their absence; but I saw nothing of them, although the country is sufficiently diversified to be adapted to the wants of almost all of them.

SUMMER BIRDS OF THE BRAS D'OR REGION OF CAPE BRETON ISLAND, NOVA SCOTIA.

BY JONATHAN DWIGHT, JR.

So far as I can learn, no definite information regarding the birds of Cape Breton has found its way into print. I feel, therefore, that the list of species I met with during a couple of weeks spent last summer in the centre of the island may be of some interest. My stay was from August 4 to August 16, and I will venture to say that the species noted during that period are a fair index of the summer residents of the country bordering upon the Bras d'Or lakes, although my observations were confined chiefly to the immediate vicinity of Baddeck, Victoria Co., N. S. As one may see by the map, the Great and little Bras d'Or nearly cut the island in two, forming large inland seas, resembling lakes, which are little affected by the tide, on account of their narrow connection with the ocean. Around them hills slope up